



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908 • (360) 753-1111 • FAX (360) 753-1112
Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: pdcc@pdc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Doug Ellis
(360) 664-2735
Toll free 1-877-601-2828

LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS ISSUED CIVIL PENALTIES AT ENFORCEMENT HEARING

Olympia – Vice-Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission, Susan Brady, found 79 elected and 7 appointed officials in violation of state Public Disclosure laws during brief enforcement hearings held Thursday in Olympia.

Elected officials and certain state appointed officials are required under state law to file an annual Personal Financial Affairs Statement with the Public Disclosure Commission by April 15th reporting financial activity for the preceding year.

“Voters take this law very seriously and expect elected officials to take it seriously as well,” Brady said. “Regardless of whether the elected position has a salary or is considered voluntary, public officials must disclose their financial affairs.”

The governmental officials who were issued a civil penalty had previously been sent two letters asking them to comply with the reporting requirements. A letter reminding each official of his or her obligation to file was sent on May 7, 2003 and letter with an opportunity to pay a \$100 fine and forego an enforcement hearing was sent on May 23, 2003.

Officials found in violation at the hearing may appeal the decision to the full, five-member Commission for review of the action taken by the Vice-Chair.

Government officials from the Northcentral Region of Washington who were assessed a penalty at the brief enforcement hearing were:

Stephen Kunkel, School Director for Okanogan School District #105, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$500 due to past violations.

Joe Mitschelen, School Director for Okanogan School District #105, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$100 for a first violation.

Dan Roseburg, Commissioner for Grant Fire Protection District #05, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$300 due to past violations.

David Sheeley, School Director of the Omak School District #019, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$150.

Roy Davis, Commissioner for the Port of Grant County District #02, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$150.

Walter Tennant, Port Commissioner for the Port of Othello, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$500 due to past violations.

Hank Cramer, School Director for the Methow Valley School District #350, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$150.

John McGrath, School Director for the Kittitas School District #403, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$100 for a first violation.

John Perrie, City Council Member for the City of Ellensburg, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$300 due to past violations.

Barbara Sperline, School Director for the Kittitas School District #403, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$150.

Morgan Picton, Fire Commissioner for the Chelan Fire Protection District #05, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$150.

David Berry, Commissioner for the Okanogan Fire Protection District #04, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$150.

Frank Mianecki, Commissioner for the Port of Grant County District #02, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$150.

Civil penalties were determined using a standard process that increases depending upon circumstances such as past violations or if reports are filed at the time of the enforcement hearing.